

PATENT APPLICATION

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re application of:

Docket No: Q77711

Michel CHEVANNE

Group Art Unit: 2452

Appln. No.: 10/673,458

Examiner: Tauqir HUSSAIN

Confirmation No.: 2008

Filed: September 30, 2003

For: SYSTEM FOR DISPLAYING NETWORK EQUIPMENT GRAPHICALLY AND
HIERARCHICALLY, FOR USE IN A COMMUNICATION NETWORK
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

Mail Stop Appeal Briefs--Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 41.37, Appellant submits the following:

Table of Contents

I.	REAL PARTY IN INTEREST	2
II.	RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES	3
III.	STATUS OF CLAIMS.....	4
IV.	STATUS OF AMENDMENTS	5
V.	SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER.....	6
VI.	GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL.....	12
VII.	ARGUMENT	13
VIII.	CONCLUSION	13
	CLAIMS APPENDIX.....	23
	EVIDENCE APPENDIX:.....	29
	RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX	30

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is ALCATEL of Paris, France. The Assignment was previously submitted and recorded in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 014572 and Frame 0577. It is noted that the name of the assignee is now Alcatel-Lucent.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

A Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review was filed on September 16, 2011. A Pre-Appeal Conference Decision was mailed on November 1, 2011 in which it was determined that the application remains under appeal because there is at least one actual issue for appeal.

There are no other appeals or interferences known to Appellant, Appellant's legal representative, or the assignee that will directly affect or be directly affected by, or have a bearing on, the Board's decision in the appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 9-17 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 4 and 7-8 have been canceled.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 9-17 stand finally rejected and are the subject of this appeal.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

The status of all amendments filed after final rejection is as follows:

An Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 was filed on February 26, 2008 in response to the Final Office Action dated November 26, 2007. Claims 1 and 9 were amended. The Amendment was entered after filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) on March 26, 2008.

An Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c) was filed on March 19, 2009 in response to the Final Office Action dated November 19, 2008 and the Advisory Action dated March 10, 2009. Claims 1 and 9 were amended and claims 10 and 11 were added. The Amendment was entered as indicated in the Non-Final Office Action dated June 4, 2009.

An Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c) was filed on April 9, 2010 in Response to the Final Office Action dated December 9, 2009 and the Advisory Action dated March 25, 2010. Claims 1 and 9 were amended. The Amendment was entered as indicated in the Non-Final Office Action dated November 19, 2010.

All amendments and arguments are believed to be previously entered and made of record.

V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Appellant's invention is related to a system for displaying network equipment graphically and hierarchically for use in a communication network management system.

Claim 1

A system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) for managing the display of images representing network equipments (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) of a communication network (see for example, page 3, line 33 to page 4, line 2), said system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) comprising:

a plurality of elements (see for example, page 1, lines 18-21), which are components of the network equipments (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) of the communication network (see for example, page 3, line 33 to page 4, line 2), associated with hierarchical levels, wherein each element (see for example, page 1, lines 18-21) is associated with a set of primary data stored in a memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9), said primary data representing the element (see for example, page 1, lines 18-21) in the level to which said element (see for example, page 1, lines 18-21) belongs without any specific attachment to any level higher than said element and at least one set of secondary data stored in said memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9), said secondary data representing the element within the level to which said element belongs and the element's connection to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy, (see for example, page 5, lines 9-16) and

management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) for

accessing and extracting from the memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9) at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong to a designated level and to levels lower than said equipment when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) with attachment is received (see for example, page 2, lines 6-19, page 9, lines 14-26), and

for accessing and extracting from the memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9) the at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated level when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) without attachment is received, (see for example, page 2, lines 6-19, page 9, lines 14-26)

wherein the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure, (see for example, page 10, lines 14-17) and

wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) refreshes the data of the elements displayed in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to said elements has occurred within the network (see for example, page 13, lines 17-20).

Claim 2

A system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) according to claim 1, wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) sends the

extracted at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data to a graphical interface (see for example, Fig. 1, element G). See page 2, lines 25-27.

Claim 9

A system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) for managing the display of images representing network equipments (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) of a communication network (see for example, page 3, line 33 to page 4, line 2), said system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) comprising:

elements (see for example, page 1, lines 18-21), which are components of the network equipments (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) of the communication network (see for example, page 3, line 33 to page 4, line 2), associated with hierarchical levels, wherein each element is associated with a set of primary data stored in a memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9), said primary data representing the element in the level to which said element belongs without any specific attachment to a level higher than said element and at least one set of secondary data stored in said memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9), said secondary data representing the element within the level to which said element belongs and the element's connection to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy, (see for example, page 5, lines 9-16) and

a management module (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) which accesses and extracts from the memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9) at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belongs to a designated level and to levels lower than said equipment

when a request which designates a chosen level of a network equipment (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) with attachment, is received, (see for example, page 2, lines 6-19, page 9, lines 14-26) and

which accesses and extracts from the memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9) at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated level when a request, which designates a chosen level of a network equipment (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) without attachment, is received, (see for example, page 2, lines 6-19, page 9, lines 14-26)

wherein the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure, (see for example, page 10, lines 14-17) and

wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) refreshes the data of the elements displayed in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to said elements has occurred within the network (see for example, page 13, lines 17-20).

Claim 13

A system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) according to claim 12, wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) accesses and extracts from the memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9) at least one of the sets of primary and secondary graphical representations of the elements of the equipment that belong to a designated hierarchical level and to hierarchical levels lower than said designated level when a request designating a chosen hierarchical level of

a network equipment (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) with attachment is received, (see for example, page 2, lines 6-19, page 9, lines 14-26) and

wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) accesses and extracts from the memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9) at least one of the sets of primary and secondary graphical representations of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated hierarchical level when a request designating a chosen hierarchical level of a network equipment (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) without attachment is received (see for example, page 2, lines 6-19, page 9, lines 14-26).

Claim 14

A system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) according to claim 13, wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) sends the extracted at least one of the sets of primary graphical and secondary graphical representations to a graphical interface (see for example, Fig. 1, element G). See page 2, lines 25-27.

Claim 16

A system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) according to claim 15, wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) accesses and extracts from the memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9) at least one of the sets of primary and secondary graphical representations of the elements of the equipment that belong to a designated hierarchical level and to hierarchical levels

lower than said designated level when a request designating a chosen hierarchical level of a network equipment with attachment is received, and

wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) accesses and extracts from the memory (see for example, Fig. 1, element MM, page 9, lines 6-9) at least one of the sets of primary and secondary graphical representations of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated hierarchical level when a request designating a chosen hierarchical level of a network equipment (see for example, Fig. 1, element NE) without attachment is received (see for example, page 2, lines 6-19, page 9, lines 14-26).

Claim 17

A system (see for example, Fig. 1, element D) according to claim 16, wherein said management means (see for example, Fig. 1, element GM, page 9, lines 6-9) sends the extracted at least one of the sets of primary graphical and secondary graphical representations to a graphical interface (see for example, Fig. 1, element G). See page 2, lines 25-27.

Although the above Summary refers to specific portions of the specification and drawings, there references are not meant to be limiting in nature, but rather are examples from the exemplary embodiments of the invention.

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The ground of rejection to be reviewed, including the statute applied, the claims subject to each rejection and the references relied upon by the examiner are as follows:

Claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 9-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Chari et al. (Patent No. US 6151023 A1), hereinafter “Chari” in view of Toyoshima et al. (US 6298349 B1), hereinafter “Toyoshima”.

VII. ARGUMENT

Appellant respectfully requests that Board reverse the final rejection of the claims pending in the application for at least the following reasons.

I. Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 9-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Chari et al. (Patent No. US 6151023 A1), hereinafter "Chari" in view of Toyoshima et al. (US 6298349 B1), hereinafter "Toyoshima".

Appellant traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1

The Examiner asserts that Chari teaches the elements of claim 1, except "wherein the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure," and cites Toyoshima to cure the deficiency. However, Appellant submits that Chari does not teach the elements of claim 1 for which the reference has been relied on, and Toyoshima fails to remedy the deficiencies of Chari.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

a plurality of elements, which are components of the network equipments of the communication network, associated with hierarchical levels, wherein each element is associated with a set of primary data stored in a memory, said primary data representing the element in the level to which said element belongs without any specific attachment to any level higher than said element and at least one set of secondary data stored in said memory, said secondary data representing the element within the level to which said element belongs and the element's connection to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy

The Examiner asserts that Figs. 4 and 6 and col. 13, lines 22-26 teach these aspects of the claim. Appellant notes that the Examiner did not particularly identify which aspect of Chari was being cited for teaching the claimed secondary data.

Chari is directed to the display of system information. Specifically, Chari is directed to an apparatus for organizing and displaying management information regarding the hardware and software components in a computer network. The aspects of Chari cited by the Examiner describe that after the Server Module 420 and the MIB Manager Module 402 are created, Maestro 400 displays the System Management Window 600. All server management functions may be provided through this window. In one embodiment, the System Management Window 600 is divided into a left part 602 and a right part 604.

Assuming the Examiner is citing the right part of the window 604 for teaching the primary data and the Examiner is citing the left part of the window 604 for teaching the secondary data, Appellant submits that the right part of the window 604 does not teach the primary data and the left part of the window 604 does not teach the secondary data.

'MIB Tree' is displayed in the left part 602. In block 1002, the SNMP Window Module 416 then displays the server name 200 in the left part 602 of the System Management Window 600. In blocks 1004 and 1006, the MIB Manager Module 402 looks for the server's major subsystems using the MIB Section Module 404. These subsystems are displayed under the server name 606 and the type of server 608. The System Management Window 600 also displays icons of the eight major subsystems on the right part 604 of the window. See col. 13, lines 55-60.

Therefore, the eight major subsystems are displayed on both the left and right part of the window. Consequently, Chari does not teach that the primary data (right part of window) represents the element in the level to which the element belongs without any specific attachment to any level higher than said element, or that the secondary data represents the element within the level to which the element belongs and the element's connection to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy, since the left and right part of Chari does not distinguish between the element and its relationship to other levels.

Claim 1 further recites “accessing and extracting from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment **that belong to a designated level and to levels lower than said equipment when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment with attachment is received.**” The Examiner asserts that col. 11, lines 10-18 teaches this aspect of the claims.

The aspects of Chari cited by the Examiner describe the EnumServer Module 414. The EnumServer Module 414 discovers and identifies the number of servers 136 in the system. The EnumServer Module 414 may store information in the memory of the microprocessor 102. The EnumServer Module 414 is a local module, but it is global in the sense that it is accessible from anywhere in the system. For example, if there are multiple servers, the EnumServer Module 414 may act as a repository of server information.

However, there is no teaching or suggestion of accessing and extracting at least one of the sets of primary (right part of window 604 as cited by the Examiner) and secondary data (left part of window 602 as cited by the Examiner) of the elements of the

equipment (eight major subsystems as cited by the Examiner) from the EnumServer Module 414 (memory as cited by the Examiner).

Claim 1 also recites management means for accessing and extracting from the memory the at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that **belong only to a designated level** when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment is received. The Examiner asserts that col. 15, lines 17-19 and col. 13, lines 6-12 teach this aspect of the claim.

The aspects of Chari cited by the Examiner describe that the MIB Section Module 402 and the MIB Variable Module 406 will retrieve the values of the MIB variables associated with those other device groups or subsystems. However, there is no teaching or suggestion of accessing and extracting from the memory (EnumServer Module 414) the at least one of the sets of primary (right part of window 604 as cited by the Examiner) and secondary data (left part of window 602 as cited by the Examiner) of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated level when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment is received. As discussed above, Chari does not teach the relationship between the primary and secondary data and levels of network equipment.

Claim 1 also recites “wherein said management means refreshes the data of the elements displayed in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to said elements has occurred within the network.” The Examiner asserts that col. 16, lines 53-63 of Chari teaches this aspect of the claims.

The aspects of Chari cited by the Examiner describe changing the value of a variable. There is no teaching or suggestion that a management means **refreshes the**

data of the elements displayed in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to said elements has occurred within the network.

The Examiner concedes that Chari does not teach “wherein the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure,” and cites Toyoshima to cure the deficiency.

Toyoshima describes that when a managed device 3 which is displayed on a display device is designated by a system administrator, the system management program requests the designated managed device 3 to transmit resource data that indicates software or hardware resources possessed by the managed device.

Therefore, Toyoshima describes a managed device providing the resources it possesses. There is no teaching or suggestion that the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure.

For at least the above reasons, the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12-14 should be reversed.

Claim 9

Claim 9 recites:

A system for managing the display of images representing network equipments of a communication network, said system comprising:

elements, which are components of the network equipments of the communication network, associated with hierarchical levels, wherein each element is associated with a set of primary data stored in a memory, said primary data representing the element in the level to which said element belongs without any specific attachment to a level higher than said element and at least one set of secondary data stored in said memory, said secondary data representing the element within the level to which said element belongs and the element's connection to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy, and

a management module which accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belongs to

a designated level and to levels lower than said equipment when a request which designates a chosen level of a network equipment with attachment, is received, and

which accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated level when a request, which designates a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment, is received,

wherein the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure, and

wherein said management means refreshes the data of the elements displayed in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to said elements has occurred within the network.

Chari is directed to the display of system information. Specifically, Chari is directed to an apparatus for organizing and displaying management information regarding the hardware and software components in a computer network. The aspects of Chari cited by the Examiner describe that after the Server Module 420 and the MIB Manager Module 402 are created, Maestro 400 displays the System Management Window 600. All server management functions may be provided through this window. In one embodiment, the System Management Window 600 is divided into a left part 602 and a right part 604.

Assuming the Examiner is citing the right part of the window 604 for teaching the primary data and the Examiner is citing the left part of the window 604 for teaching the secondary data, Appellant submits that the right part of the window 604 does not teach the primary data and the left part of the window 604 does not teach the secondary data.

'MIB Tree' is displayed in the left part 602. In block 1002, the SNMP Window Module 416 then displays the server name 200 in the left part 602 of the System Management Window 600. In blocks 1004 and 1006, the MIB Manager Module 402 looks for the server's major subsystems using the MIB Section Module 404. These subsystems are displayed under the server name 606 and the type of server 608. The

System Management Window 600 also displays icons of the eight major subsystems on the right part 604 of the window. See col. 13, lines 55-60.

Therefore, the eight major subsystems are displayed on both the left and right part of the window. Consequently, Chari does not teach that the primary data (right part of window) represents the element in the level to which the element belongs without any specific attachment to any level higher than said element, or that the secondary data represents the element within the level to which the element belongs and the element's connection to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy, since the left and right part of Chari does not distinguish between the element and its relationship to other levels.

Claim 9 further recites “a management module which accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belongs to a designated level and to levels lower than said equipment when a request which designates a chosen level of a network equipment with attachment, is received.” The Examiner asserts that col. 11, lines 10-18 teaches this aspect of the claims.

The aspects of Chari cited by the Examiner describe the EnumServer Module 414. The EnumServer Module 414 discovers and identifies the number of servers 136 in the system. The EnumServer Module 414 may store information in the memory of the microprocessor 102. The EnumServer Module 414 is a local module, but it is global in the sense that it is accessible from anywhere in the system. For example, if there are multiple servers, the EnumServer Module 414 may act as a repository of server information.

However, there is no teaching or suggestion of accessing and extracting at least one of the sets of primary (right part of window 604 as cited by the Examiner) and secondary data (left part of window 602 as cited by the Examiner) of the elements of the equipment (eight major subsystems as cited by the Examiner) from the EnumServer Module 414 (memory as cited by the Examiner).

Claim 9 also recites “accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated level when a request, which designates a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment, is received.” The Examiner asserts that col. 15, lines 17-19 and col. 13, lines 6-12 teach this aspect of the claim.

The aspects of Chari cited by the Examiner describe that the MIB Section Module 402 and the MIB Variable Module 406 will retrieve the values of the MIB variables associated with those other device groups or subsystems. However, there is no teaching or suggestion of accessing and extracting from the memory (EnumServer Module 414) the at least one of the sets of primary (right part of window 604 as cited by the Examiner) and secondary data (left part of window 602 as cited by the Examiner) of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated level when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment is received. As discussed above, Chari does not teach the relationship between the primary and secondary data and levels of network equipment.

Claim 9 also recites “wherein said management means refreshes the data of the elements displayed in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to

said elements has occurred within the network.” The Examiner asserts that col. 16, lines 53-63 of Chari teaches this aspect of the claims.

The aspects of Chari cited by the Examiner describe changing the value of a variable. There is no teaching or suggestion that a management means **refreshes the data of the elements displayed** in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to said elements has occurred within the network.

The Examiner concedes that Chari does not teach “wherein the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure,” and cites Toyoshima to cure the deficiency.

Toyoshima describes that when a managed device 3 which is displayed on a display device is designated by a system administrator, the system management program requests the designated managed device 3 to transmit resource data that indicates software or hardware resources possessed by the managed device.

Therefore, Toyoshima describes a managed device providing the resources it possesses. There is no teaching or suggestion that the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure.

For at least the above reasons, the rejection of claim 9 and its dependent claims 11 and 15-17 should be reversed.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(a) and 1.17(c) is being remitted. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Ruthleen E. Uy/

SUGHTRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Ruthleen E. Uy
Registration 51,361

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 12, 2011

CLAIMS APPENDIX

CLAIMS 1-6 AND 9-17 ON APPEAL:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. A system for managing the display of images representing network equipments of a communication network, said system comprising:

a plurality of elements, which are components of the network equipments of the communication network, associated with hierarchical levels, wherein each element is associated with a set of primary data stored in a memory, said primary data representing the element in the level to which said element belongs without any specific attachment to any level higher than said element and at least one set of secondary data stored in said memory, said secondary data representing the element within the level to which said element belongs and the element's connection to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy, and

management means for

accessing and extracting from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong to a designated level and to levels lower than said equipment when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment with attachment is received, and

for accessing and extracting from the memory the at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated level when a request designating a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment is received,

wherein the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure, and

wherein said management means refreshes the data of the elements displayed in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to said elements has occurred within the network.

2. A system according to claim 1, wherein said management means sends the extracted at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data to a graphical interface.

3. A system according to claim 1, wherein some elements are associated with sets of primary and secondary data that are at least partly identical.

5. A management server of a communication network management system, wherein said server comprises a system according to claim 1.

6. A server according to claim 5, wherein said system is installed in a control system.

9. A system for managing the display of images representing network equipments of a communication network, said system comprising:

elements, which are components of the network equipments of the communication network, associated with hierarchical levels, wherein each element is associated with a set of primary data stored in a memory, said primary data representing

the element in the level to which said element belongs without any specific attachment to a level higher than said element and at least one set of secondary data stored in said memory, said secondary data representing the element within the level to which said element belongs and the element's connection to a level higher than or equal to the level of said element in the hierarchy, and

a management module which accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belongs to a designated level and to levels lower than said equipment when a request which designates a chosen level of a network equipment with attachment, is received, and

which accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary data of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated level when a request, which designates a chosen level of a network equipment without attachment, is received,

wherein the data of the elements is displayed after realigning position data of the data of the elements or after the end of a procedure, and

wherein said management means refreshes the data of the elements displayed in the event of receiving a message reporting that an event relating to said elements has occurred within the network.

10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the primary and secondary data for all of the plurality of elements is stored in a centralized, long term storage device.

11. The system according to claim 9, wherein the primary and secondary data for all of the plurality of elements is stored in a centralized, long term storage device.

12. A system according to claim 1, wherein said primary data of each of the plurality of elements is a primary graphical representation showing the element with which the primary data is associated within the hierarchical level to which the element belongs without showing any attachment of the element to a hierarchical level higher than the hierarchical level to which the element belongs; and

wherein said secondary data of each of the plurality of elements is a secondary graphical representation showing the element with which the secondary data is associated within the hierarchical level to which the element belongs and also showing a connection of the element to a hierarchical level higher or equal to the hierarchical level to which the element belongs.

13. A system according to claim 12, wherein said management means accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary graphical representations of the elements of the equipment that belong to a designated hierarchical level and to hierarchical levels lower than said designated level when a request designating a chosen hierarchical level of a network equipment with attachment is received, and

wherein said management means accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary graphical representations of the elements of the

equipment that belong only to a designated hierarchical level when a request designating a chosen hierarchical level of a network equipment without attachment is received.

14. A system according to claim 13, wherein said management means sends the extracted at least one of the sets of primary graphical and secondary graphical representations to a graphical interface.

15. A system according to claim 9, wherein said primary data of each of the plurality of elements is a primary graphical representation showing the element with which the primary data is associated within the hierarchical level to which the element belongs without showing any attachment of the element to a hierarchical level higher than the hierarchical level to which the element belongs; and

wherein said secondary data of each of the plurality of elements is a secondary graphical representation showing the element with which the secondary data is associated within the hierarchical level to which the element belongs and also showing a connection of the element to a hierarchical level higher or equal to the hierarchical level to which the element belongs.

16. A system according to claim 15, wherein said management means accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary graphical representations of the elements of the equipment that belong to a designated hierarchical level and to hierarchical levels lower than said designated level when a request

designating a chosen hierarchical level of a network equipment with attachment is received, and

wherein said management means accesses and extracts from the memory at least one of the sets of primary and secondary graphical representations of the elements of the equipment that belong only to a designated hierarchical level when a request designating a chosen hierarchical level of a network equipment without attachment is received.

17. A system according to claim 16, wherein said management means sends the extracted at least one of the sets of primary graphical and secondary graphical representations to a graphical interface.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(ix), submitted herewith are copies of any evidence submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.130, 1.131, or 1.132 or any other evidence entered by the Examiner and relied upon by Appellant in the appeal.

NONE.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

Submitted herewith are copies of decisions rendered by a court or the Board in any proceeding identified about in Section II pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(ii).

A copy of the Pre-Appeal Brief Decision mailed November 1, 2011